

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION ASSET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
May 5th, 2004
County Road Association of Michigan Offices
417 Seymour Ave. Suite 1
Lansing, Michigan

Meeting noticed in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976.

Present

Carmine Palombo, Chairman
Richard Deuell, Member
John Kolessar, Member
Susan Mortel, Member
Kirk Steudle, Member
Frank Kelley, Commission Advisor

Thomas Wieczorek, Vice Chairman
Aaron Hopper, Member
Bill McEntee, Member
Jerry Richards, Member
Steve Warren, Member
Rob Surber, Member

Absent

Eric Swanson, Member

Staff Present

Rick Lilly, Bureau of Transportation Planning
Ron Vibbert, Bureau of Transportation Planning
Meghann Rauscher, Bureau of Transportation Planning

Presenters

Larry Galehouse

Call to Order

Chairman Palombo called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

Approval of the April 7th, 2004 Council Minutes

Chairman Palombo presented the [April 7th, 2004 Council Minutes](#) for approval. No comments were made. Vice Chair Wieczorek moved for the approval of the minutes supported by Mr. Richards. The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Correspondence and Announcements

Mr. Lilly informed the Council that Mr. Kelley would be taking the position of Commission Advisor. This position was previously held by Ms. Lockwood. Mr. Kelley thanked the members for the opportunity to be part of the Council.

Chairman Palombo announced that the Annual Report Presentation to the Commission was held at their last meeting. Chairman Palombo said it was well received and has been submitted to Legislature.

Mr. Lilly noted that a new regular agenda item will be added to the meetings. Each agency that is represented on the Council will have an opportunity to report on their activities and bring the Council up-to-date.

Agency Reports

CRAM – Reported by Mr. Warren

Mr. Warren reported that the next CRAM board meeting will be held in June at the UP Road Builders Conference. Mr. Warren mentioned that he may update the Advisory Committee on Council activities at this meeting.

M-DOT – Reported by Ms. Mortel

Ms. Mortel updated the Council on the reauthorization progress. Another 2-month extension has been made. Currently, the House and Senate are tackling the biggest issue - what the reauthorization amount will be over the 6-year time frame. The House and Senate will not proceed to conference until this issue has been settled. The Senate has submitted a figure of \$318-billion, while the Administration has settled on approximately \$250-billion. No action will be taken on the bill until this issue is settled. Ms. Mortel noted that as more time passes, it is less likely that action on a six year bill will occur. The idea of a 2-year extension is gaining popularity; Ms. Mortel noted this would be bad for Michigan. A 2-year extension would reauthorize monies at the 2003 level. This would leave Michigan approximately \$20-million short in 2004 and \$40-million short in 2005. Counties and cities would be in a similar situation. Their 25% federal-aid will fall short about 3.2%. This has not been agreed upon yet, the current extension will carry us through July 4th. Ms. Mortel noted that the Department supports the Senate's 6-year reauthorization level. The House bill would not support the delivery of Michigan's 5-year program.

MPO's – Reported by Chairman Palombo

Chairman Palombo announced that legislation has been introduced to the Senate that would require the M-DOT 5-Year Program be approved by Michigan Legislature before it can be acted upon. The MPO's are concerned because this takes responsibility away from the local elected officials in making the decisions on the federal end. Many of the projects in the 5-Year Program are federally funded. The policy committees are attempting to pass resolutions expressing their concerns.

Another issue facing the MPO's is the requirements being placed on communities in regards to air quality. Agencies will need to refamiliarize themselves with the technical processes that are involved in meeting the air quality requirements. Chairman Palombo noted that southeast Michigan may divert back to implementing inspection on the maintenance program.

Monthly Report

Mr. Lilly presented the [April Monthly Report](#) to the Council. Mr. Lilly noted that the two key items on the report are the Commission approval of the [2004 – 2006 Work Program](#) and the approval of the [2003 Annual Report](#). All of these items have been made available on the website.

Committee Reports

Administrative and Education Committee (reported by Vice Chair Wieczorek):

Topic 1: Getting Out the Message - Public Act 9 of 2004

The Committee discussed ways of addressing local units of government on the changes this act caused in receiving Act 51 monies. The change allows for more than 25% of **state** dollars to be transferred from the major road fund to the local road fund provided they have adopted and are implementing an asset management process. Many communities are confused with this process and the Committee would like to explore ideas to create an education and outreach program to include: a pamphlet to provide more information, training, and **a sample resolution** asset management process/procedure that communities could adopt.

Topic 2: Advisory Panels

The Committee began discussing what the required advisory panels should be. Currently, no decisions have been made in regards to the type, time limits, roles, etc. The Committee decided that before any decisions can be reached we must define and discuss the exact parameters that we would have the groups work in and who we would like to have involved.

Topic 3: Pilot Projects

The Committee discussed how we will begin to screen these projects at the region and MPO level. The Council needs to be aware of some of the other groups that becoming involved with asset management processes (DNR). This way, we can combine efforts and make the Council a recognized leader in the process. Mr. Lilly noted several asset management related projects have been submitted to MRUTC for funding. The Council could possibly look at some of these projects for funding through our pilot project budget. Mr. Lilly mentioned that the Council may want to set-up a rating process to determine what projects are worthwhile to our mission and we would consider funding. The Administrative Committee will be discussing the criteria for all pilot projects at the June meeting and will be moving forward on it at that time. Ms. Mortel expressed her concerns in regards to some of these projects prematurely expanding our scope. However, the Legislature has made the Council the authority for asset management implementation, and we should therefore provide guidance to agencies taking on these projects. Mr. Kolessar noted that we need to be careful about working with the agencies; we want to provide guidance, but not interfere with their goals. Mr. Kolessar also noted that it is important to inform these agencies that our data will be made public. The Council may want to look into any issues that may arise due to this.

Topic 4: NHI Class and Communication and Education Plan

These items are regular agenda items and will be discussed later in the meeting.

Data Management Committee (reported by Mr. McEntee):**Topic 1: State Statistician and Model**

Mr. Surber will be contacting the state statistician to arrange a meeting. We would like to possibly generate information that can be implemented into a model based on sound statistical practices. Mr. Lilly and Mr. Surber will be investigating the data needs and the financial data requirements of some currently available models. The Committee will begin investigating the models to determine if they can deal with the size of our dataset. The Committee will begin narrowing the last of available models based on this and other criteria.

Topic 2: Genesee, Bay, and Saginaw County Testing

The Committee will begin working with the above counties and the communities within them to look at the data that is currently available (road condition, traffic volumes, etc).

We will test the models functionality in using the data to come up with RSL figures. These areas would give us a good balance of dataset sizes based on the urban and rural characteristics of the counties.

Strategic Analysis Committee (reported by Mr. Warren):

*Meeting was postponed. The Committee is currently dovetailing their efforts with the Data Committee. The main area of focus is identifying and evaluating a statewide model. Mr. Lilly noted that the July Council meeting will include a full-scale presentation on RoadSoft with Terry McNich. Mr. McNich will demonstrate the entire functionality of RoadSoft. Mr. Lilly asked that anyone who cannot attend the meeting let him know as soon as possible. Chairman Palombo suggested that all members be present at the meeting. Mr. Lilly noted that the date is flexible and can be moved to accommodate everyone's schedule. The July Council meeting will be held on July 7th.

Review of NHI Course

Chairman Palombo thanked everyone for taking part in the course and taking time to review it. Chairman Palombo continued saying the course seemed very valuable in helping to make decisions. Mr. Lilly provided the written comments from all of the attendees. Mr. Lilly noted that an interesting reply from the county road commissions was that the course was too theoretical. The county road commissions felt the commissioners would benefit more from the theoretical approach to the course; however it should be simplified a bit.

Another suggestion was to have tiered-approach. The class would deal with policy-makers at one level and practitioners and another level.

The cities responded commenting that the course was very good. The cities found that many of the concepts taught could be easily implemented. Vice Chair Wieczorek suggested having the Council look at the accreditation program of APWA. The APWA process gives local units of government a checklist to develop policies, procedures, and best-practices. This is a great resource for smaller communities.

Mr. Lilly asked the Council if they wanted to work on revising the course and making it available around the state as part of our regular education and training. Chairman Palombo suggested trying to revise the course and holding it again to get comments.

Communication and Education Plan

Mr. Steudle moved to approve the [Education & Communication Plan](#), supported by Vice Chair Wieczorek. The Education & Communication Plan was unanimously supported.

National Center for Pavement Preservation

Mr. Larry Galehouse gave an overview of NCPP. He conducted a short presentation to give the Council background information on the organization.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.

Commission Advisor